



Oxnard Couple Dedicates Life To Foster Children, Fostering 321 Children

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OXNARD, Calif. -

The Oxnard house Barbara and her husband Edward Williams share is not only home to them, but it has also been called home by 321 Ventura County foster children and youths.

“We never talk to much of our kids as being foster kids. You would never hear us say that because they are our children. Most of them call us mom and dad,” said Edward Williams.

When the couple became a foster family in 1981, they couldn’t have foreseen how the experience would change their lives.

“I just enjoyed my years doing what I love and doing what I was suppose to do, and that was to be here for children, and to bless me and to bless them,” said Barbara Williams.

Over the last 35 years not only have their lives been positively influenced, but so have the lives of the children they took in, like Dominique Martinez, who first came into their home when she was six-years-old.

“It was my very first foster home, and one of the things I remember and recognize is that I instantly felt safe here, because my previous life with my biological mother I didn’t always feel safe. I’m very grateful that I am able to have a relationship with them now, and that they took care of me,” said Martinez.

“She comes by to have dinner with us every Sunday, every holiday and just anytime she is here, and we just love Dominique, she is our daughter and we are mom and dad, and she is our daughter,” said Barbara Williams.

The two now plan on retiring from being full-time foster parents, but they know that their home will never be quiet. Between their 321 children and a multitude of grandkids and great grandkids, they always seem to have a couple of visitors stopping by or enjoying Barbara’s famous Sunday night dinner.

The need for loving homes for foster children and youths in Ventura County is just as significant as ever, with more than 1,000 children needing a home.

For more information on how you can help Ventura County’s foster youths in need, contact Foster VC Kids at 805-654-3220 or visit www.fostervckids.org

<http://www.keyt.com/news/oxnard-couple-cares-for-321-foster-children-over-35-years/40479222>